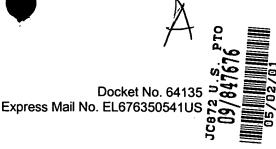
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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

NEW APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of Raimar Boehlke, Nelkenweg 7, D-83064 Raubling, Germany, Werner Schwarz, Zellerstrasse 28, D-83324 Ruhpolding, Germany, Professor Dr. Thomas Ischinger, Oberonstrasse 3, D-81927 Muenchen, Germany and Thomas Ehrl, Dollendorfstrasse 32, D-45144 Essen, Germany for ARRANGEMENT FOR ELIMINATING, OR AT LEAST FOR REDUCING THE SIZE OF, INTERSPACES BETWEEN THREE ELEMENTS ARRANGED ONE BEHIND THE OTHER IN THE LONGITUDINAL DIRECTION. This application is an original application. This application is claiming benefit of priority of U.S. Application Serial filed concurrently, which is based on PCT application PCT/DE 00/03118 priority date September 8, 1999 and having international filing date of September 5, 2000 and PCT application of addition 100 53 884.3 filed October 31, 2000 as well as German Utility Model Application 201 01 699.0 filed January 31, 2001.

This application is being filed without a Declaration/Power of Attorney, Verified Declaration of Small Entity Status and Assignment. In that this application is complete as required under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b), and has been submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.10(c), this application should be afforded the filing date of May 2, 2001.

All correspondence, including NOTICE OF MISSING PARTS, concerning the above-identified application should be sent to:

William B. Ritchie, Esq.
McLane, Graf, Raulerson & Middleton
Professional Association
900 Elm Street, P.O. Box 326
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0326

Papers enclosed are:

58 pages of specification

4 claims

1 page of abstracts

11 sheets of informal drawings

Additional papers enclosed are:

Express Mail Certificate

PCT application PCT/DE 00/03118 priority date September 8, 1999 and having international filing date of September 5, 2000

PCT application of addition 100 53 884.3 filed October 31, 2000

German Utility Model Application 201 01 699.0 filed January 31, 2001

Fee Calculation:

Regular application-small entity
Total Claims 4 -- NO Extra
Independent Claims 2 -- NO Extra
Filing Fee Calculation

\$355.00

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$355.00 for the basic filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

William B. Ritchie Attorney for Applicant Reg. No. 33,118

McLane, Graf, Raulerson & Middleton Professional Association

900 Elm St., P.O. Box 326 Manchester, NH 03105-0326

Tel. No. (603) 625-6464

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)
Raimar Boehlke et al.	
Serial No. To Be Assigned)	,
Filed: Concurrent)	,
For: ARRANGEMENT FOR ELIMINATING, OR) AT LEAST FOR REDUCING THE SIZE OF,) INTERSPACES BETWEEN THREE ELEMENTS) ARRANGED ONE BEHIND THE OTHER IN THE) LONGITUDINAL DIRECTION)	

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Express Mail Label Number EL676350541US

Date of Deposit __5-2-0/

I hereby certify that the following attached paper and fee:

complete and translated patent application including:

58 pages of specification

4 claims

1 page of abstracts

11 sheets of drawings

check in the amount of \$355.00.

PCT application PCT/DE 00/03118 priority date September 8, 1999 and having international filing date of September 5, 2000

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is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C.

William B. Ritchie